of Venereal Diseases, now better known as Sexually Diseases (STDs) are:

(a) Urbanisation and industrialisation leading to social disruption.
(b) Migration
(c) Work related travel and tourism.
(d) Change in social values.
(e) Change in Health seeking behaviour as a result of Information, Education and Communication (IEC) Campaign under Programme, because of which more cases are being reported.

(d) and (e) All media of communication including interpersonal communication are being used to create awareness among the people. An IEC package consisting of 4 types of posters, one folder and flip book has been prepared specifically for the persons attending STD clinics for wide display and distribution.

LTTE-Smuggler Nexus on Rameswaram Coastline

1543. SHRI S. MUTHU MANI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) Whether the custom officials at International Airport have busted an international syndicate involved in smuggling Acetic Anhydride, a precursor chemical used to refine Heroin from Opium to the opium growing countries like Pakistan, Afghanistan etc.;

(b) Whether the Custom authorities have conducted any investigation to establish who has manufactured the Acetic Anhydride, its manufacture has been restricted by Government and to find out other details in respect of smuggling of the same to the above opium growing countries; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (c) International Airport seized 874 Kgs of Acetic Anhydride on 27.5.96 while attempted to be smuggled out of the country. In the follow up investigation and raids 1241 kgs of Acetic Anhydride was recovered and seized. Investigations have not established the identity of the factory where seized Acetic Anhydride was manufactured. Hence no raid on any factory was undertaken in this regard. Investigations conducted in this connection did not reveal involvement of any international syndicate.

Closure of Indian Banks in London

1544. SHRI SANJAY DALMIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Indian Banks in London have been closed down on flimsy grounds to save other banks;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) No Indian bank branches in London were closed on flimsy grounds.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Tourists Visiting Karnataka

1545. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the number of tourist, Indian/foreign, who visited places of tourist interest in Karnataka during the last year and so far during the current year; and

(b) the measures taken by Government to provide facilities like cheaper accommodation for low-budget-tourists?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA): (a) According to the information available from the State Government, estimated number of Indian and foreign tourists who visited places of tourist interest in Karnataka during 1995 were 44,67,516 and 59,991 respectively.

Information relating to 1996 is not available.

(b) The measures taken by the Government to provide facilities for budget tourists include central financial assistance to the State Government for the construction of Yatri Niwas, Yatrikas and wayside facilities etc.

Producers' Dues to Doordarshan

1546. PROF. NAUNIHAL SINGH: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Doordarshan owes Rs. 10 crores to the producers of its programmes;

(b) if so, what action Government are taking to meet this liability;

(c) whether it is also a fact that DD III has requested an allocation of Rs. 15 crores for programming in the new software budget; and

(d) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM): (a) Yes, Sir. Doordarshan owes more than Rs. 10 crores to the producers of its programmes.

(b) Payments due to individual producers are being made at present by Doordarshan within the ceilings voted in the interim budget for 1996-97.

(c) and (d) A budgetary provision of Rs. 15 crores has been projected during 1996-97 for meeting the cost of any fresh commissioning of programmes for the DD-III Channel.

World Bank Assistance for Referral Health Services

1547. DR. D. MASTAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Rs. 1,650 crores first level referral health services scheme for the country is being assisted by World Bank; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. An agreement for the Second health systems Development Project covering the states of Karnataka, Punjab and West Bengal has been signed with World Bank on 18.4.1996 for an International development Agency assistance (Loan) of Rs. 16,691.4 million (US$ 350 million equivalent) for achieving *interalia)*:—

(i) Managerial Development and Institutional strengthening.

(ii) Improving Service, Quality, access and effectiveness at the first referral level.

(iii) Improving access to Primary Health Care in remote and underdeveloped areas of these States.

बिहार द्वारा मांगी गई वित्तीय सहायता

1548. श्री नागमणि: क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) गत तीन वर्षों के दौरान बिहार सरकार द्वारा कुल कितनी अतिरिक्त वित्तीय सहायता के लिए अनुरोध किया गया है;

(ख) केन्द्रीय सरकार द्वारा वर्ष-वार और आबंटन किया गया;

(ग) प्रत्येक मामले में मांगी गई पूर्ण सहायता नहीं दिए जाने के क्या कारण हैं;

(घ) क्या चालू वित्तीय वर्ष के दौरान मांगी गई अतिरिक्त सहायता दे दी गई है;

(ङ) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है; और

(च) यदि नहीं, तो इसके क्या कारण है?

वित्त मंत्री तथा कम्पनी कार्य मंत्री (श्री पी० चिदम्बरम): (क) से (च) राज्यों की द्वारा दिया जाता है, जिन्हें राज्यों के निजी संसाधनों, केन्द्रीयकृत रूप से आबंटित संसाधनों जैसे मार्केट उधार, परास्परिक बातचीत से तय किए ऋण और केन्द्रीय सहायता द्वारा वित्त पोषित